

University of Montana

## ScholarWorks at University of Montana

---

University of Montana News Releases, 1928,  
1956-present

University Relations

---

2-1-1973

### Field work provides valuable experience for UM law students

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases>

## Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

---

#### Recommended Citation

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "Field work provides valuable experience for UM law students" (1973). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 26194.  
<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases/26194>

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the University Relations at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@mso.umt.edu](mailto:scholarworks@mso.umt.edu).



IMMEDIATELY

larrivee/ness/bb  
2-1-73  
state + cs +

## FIELD WORK PROVIDES VALUABLE EXPERIENCE FOR UM LAW STUDENTS

By Noel Larrivee  
UM Information Services

MISSOULA--

Education at the University of Montana takes on a variety of forms, especially "on-the-job training" for UM law students who are working for local, state and federal law agencies throughout Montana.

"Students attending the UM law school gain valuable experience working in a variety of law-oriented jobs," Robert E. Sullivan, dean of the law school, stated recently.

Sullivan said few people realize the importance of field work in legal education and explained the law school's attitude towards working and attending school simultaneously.

"Our field work program serves two purposes: it allows the student to assist the county attorney, city attorney, police department and public defender and at the same time eases the financial burden of three years of law school."

Most of the students who work are second and third year students, he noted.

In addition to assisting government agencies, law students research material for the UM law school and the Montana Crime Control Commission.

"During the summer, many students serve as interns for different county attorneys throughout the state; for the sheriffs and police departments in various towns; in probation offices; in legal services offices; as federal agency clerks and for private attorneys," Sullivan said.

more

"Currently we have openings for approximately 40 students to work during the summer and eventually we hope to place all second-year students during the summer months."

Sandy Muckelston, assistant dean at the Missoula law school, coordinates placement opportunities for the law students.

The program is not without its problems, Sullivan noted. "The biggest drawback to the intern program is a policy which restricts the students to research or presenting cases on the police court level. Even more experience could be gained under a 'student practice rule' which would allow students to appear in district court under the supervision of an attorney. The feasibility of a change in the current policy is under study."

###